THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

Entered at the Postoffice at Marlin on, W. Va., as second class matter

CALVIN W. PRICE. EDITOR.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1928

The Huntersville road. This is a long lane that keeps on turning. Before taking up a number of items of unfinished business, I want to refer to an item of finished business, and that is the life and times of the trilobite, together with comments on his rise, decline, and fall as the ruler of the world.

It has been the height of my ambition to find the unfindable, the perfect trilobite, and I have searched for him in the Silurian, the Devonian the Mississppian, the Pennsylvanian, and on Droop Mountain. I believe I have found him, on the Huntersville road, in a patch of ground not longer not bigger than a man's front yard, and when I found one I found several Drowsing over the contradictory conclusions reaced by eminent geologists, that Brotherhood of Uncertain Guess I came upon a statement that the trilobite was apt to be preserved in shale, and with that as a starter I went up to our pile of Devonian drift wood on the J. H. Buzzard plantation, and leaving the hard rock I went to a place of the shale. There was a chunk of dark shale, which is a soft kind of a rock, or a hard bit of earth according to the way you regard it. I hit it with my little hammer and it crumbled like a huge clod and out of the chunk I took twelve trilobites, many of them covered with white shell or lime or chitin, the horny integument of the trilobite. Afterwards I found a large number of others. Some weathered out on the ground like a nut out of a shell, and others buried in the sarcophagus but showing one side.

So I am bound to tell you about it My observation is that as men get old that they grow garrulous (wordy) or they become embittered. The parting of the ways in life comes to most men in the fifties. Those who carry on are the talkative kind. Those who give up are silent, down cast, and unresponsive. The Ancient Mariner had the choice. He could have grouched his way through life and gone down unwept, unhonored, and unsung. On the other hand he decided to keep in touch with his fellow men, and he told his interminable tales, and the historian records that they could not refrain from hearing. He not only had shot the albatross, but he was the experienced drawer of the long bow. He foretold prohibition when there would be plenty of water but not a drop to drink. There is however a middle ground between the grim silence of the gritting teeth, and talking your friends to exasperation, and that is to write it down and have it printed. The spirit of 1776 was to write long letters to friends with a quill pen, and this has brought forth many a book.

I look for the next gale that blows from the north to bring the word that these are not trilobites, but I know better and I can prove it to you The best I could hope for would be that they are a new kind for then I would have found something new, and when a geologist finds something new he puts on airs like he had made the blamed thing instead of stumbling on it like a blind pig on an acorn under a tree.

Here is the romance about the trilobite. In all recorded history, comprising five hundred million of years according to some super scientists who are not careful of what they say, there are three divisions of peculiar interest to the historian: The period when the rulers of the world were the trilobites or crustaceans; the period when the rulers were the big lizards or dinosaurs; and the period which is now passing when the rulers are men.

The triiobite owed his dominion over the creatures to the fact that he was the only animal that had eyes, teeth, and the power of moving quickly from place to place or speed as we say. Today he would be nothing wonderful and we would use him for fish bait.

The diposaur owned his domination to size and ferosity. An animal a hundred and twenty feet long and weighing upwards of a hundred tons ruled by the law of the heavy weight.

Then man comparatively feeble and frail ruled by the powers of the mind, tempered by the justice and sense of right due to his God given soul

It is universally admitted that the vital spark of science is imagination. The great truth comes like a flash though the slaves of the lamp spend ages delving into infinite detail.

So we are allowed to figure out the condition of the world as to animal life in the trilobite time. In the first place there was no life either vegetable or animal except in the waters. It is recorded in Genesis that God first created moving things that had life in the waters. Next the fowls of air. Third the land animals including the creeping things. And geologists read the sign in just this way. At first the most of the animals stayed put at the place they were dropped like the oyster and other shell fish, having little or no power of moving. They had no eyes. No weapons of offense. Often no sex. Grew by budding. Some had shells which afforded protection. Then came the trilobite. Over two thousand kinds have been collected from the imprints known as fossils. And the trilobite had eyes to see, a beak to rend, and swift motions To all intents and purposes the trilobite was like the crawfish. The same feather-paddles and powerful tail that enables it to back water so fast The broad beamed tail in the crawfish is thrown violently down and forward and it travels backward with incredible speed as all of us bass fishermen who have hunted bait know full well.

In size the trilobite varied from half an inch to twenty-seven inches in length. The only preying animal, the rest of creation were as helpless before it as a ripe strawberry in its bed from the darting fingers of a small boy. And how did this lord of creation improve its shining hour? Some fed on other fish, some fed on vegetation, and others were pure mud eaters. No accounting for tastes in the ruling classes.

The most perfect specimen I found showed head, eyes, mouth, thorax, and crawfish like tail, covered with a shell. Its feathered edges that acted as fins were not preserved but its head spines together with is thoracic limbs had given it the true shield like shape. And it had innumerable tubercles on it, and of the hundred or more drawings I consulted it most nearly resembles the asaphicus tuberculatus. Anyway I was glad to find the little cuss hiding away under the corner of a big boulder. It is one and a half inches broad, and one half an inch thick, shield shaped, and just the right size for a watch charm to be worn across the broad front of Mr. Babbitt. It is a true knight from its broad carapace to its running pygidnum, and it belonged to the lords of creation in its day and time But it is a beast that perished It stood still. Presently progressive forms of life appeared. Great fish that had heads like stone crushers that would sidle up to a bed of shell fish like a tractor and scoop up shells like a steam shovel and grind them up and eat them. The silly tribolites living lives of ease went down before these republicans. The trilobite retreated to the shallow bays and finally had to give up the ghost. The trace is all that is left.

Some time ago I sent out fifty four boxes of these Huntersville fossils, one to each county, to the member of the state historical society for that county, as historical geology is bound up in history and part and parcel of it. One of the letters I got back was from a geologist who had identified one of the shapes as a trilobite, and that had given me a inkling that the trilobite might be found. Another specimen I had found in the big lime that was identified last summer by Dr. I. C. White as a trilobite, but it is is wholly different from the ones that I got from that mysterious zone between the Old Red Sandstone and points beyond. So I inadvertently sent the gentleman a trilobite before I was well stocked up with them at home.

It is hard sometimes to realize that where we now sit surrounded by all that embellishes civilized life, on top of the mountains, ringed by the azure world, that at one time it was below the thunders of the upper deep far, far beneath in the abysmal sea!

And it is a wonderful thing that so many signs of sea life have endured to this time to be exposed by excavation of the great highways.

And the time will come when the education of the geologist will not be considered complete until he has made a tour of this the highest horizon o' the Appalachian mountains.

I have another theory to advance and that is that the trilobite is not entirely extinct and that the crawfish and the lobster are the survivors of the ancient caste. It is said that the lobster is threatened with extinction by the choralis puella, or actress, which feeds upon it, but the crawdads are safe enough until they become more popular than they are now as a diet.

It was a long time before I found out what was the matter with the crawfish is an article for human food. Most people use that dish just once in camp. The reason is that they do not remove the entrails and coprolites. In other words they fail to gut the fish before cooking them. They do not suspect that the crawfish has digest orgars in the tail. If the crawfish is properly clean it is not so bad if you are very hungry and have nothing else to eat.

The one thing, that both the trilobite and the crawfish had the digestive tract enclosed in the pygidium which was also used as a propeller, is sufficient to class them as belonging to one and the same family, for the reason that this is a peculiarity and common only to them. Other fishes with tails hung perpendicular dart forward by powerful strokes of the tail from side to side, but the trilobites have horizontal tails which cause them to go into reverse gear and travel backwards.

Therefore it is apparent that when I picked up the stone trilobites I could have reached the creek in a few steps and there secured the surviving trilobite in the form of a crawfish. I am going to take that up with the Academy of Science, for I have got license to think since I was accepted by that body as a member I would like it understood that I do not belong to the premeditationist school of thought, whose members ponder on what they will say about a scientific discovery for forty years or such a matter and then decide not to say it. I belong to another school entirely The school that is about three jumps ahead of the typesetters who want what they want when they want it.

There is one thing certain, either the trilobite was equipped with self starters like the crawfish, or else some needy paleontologist got hold of a crawfish and stole his thunder, when he restored the trilobite.

If you happen to be in New York sometime on the street called Crooked, and you get full and crave lobster or have a companion who sits on a cushion and is accustomed to lobster you might order a trilobite and see what happens. The chances are that you will be taken for a spotter and told that it is against the law. And your sole reply shall be that you thought you had left the law at home

Another thing that the books agree upon is that the trilobite sheds its armor periodically and grows a new one increasing in size by this process. That is what the crawfish does as any riverside naturalist can tell you. This produces the famous soft craw so irresistible as bait for black bass. The worst about the soft craw for bass is that it is so pulpy that the bass will extract it from the hook without getting caught. So step by step we reason it out like the old lady eating in a strange place a kind of food. She said: It looks like bology, it smells like bology, it tastes like bology, and by gum, it is bology."

The crawfish in his cool retreat,
Upon the river bed,
Rested his frame upon his feet,
And sorrowfully said:
Crawfish is a vulgar name,
They rob me of a right,
The world may laugh, but all the same,
I am a Trilobite.

Darwin intimates that man may be descended from trilobites. You know my opinion about Darwin. I think he is an overrated liar. I suppose that in his day and time there were Curlylocks and that Curly locks then as now was fond of lobster and went with papa to taverns and eat lobsters in public places, tearing them limb from limb, and consuming bones and beak. And Darwin may have been attracted by the noise attending the destruction and observed her, and got his great theory that as superior animals were evolved that they ate up their ancestors. This being put into many pages of prose, many were deceived thereby. And it still causes a great many suffering men who have shaken hands with Old Man Trouble to stand on their hind legs and howl at the hope killer

Stop as the telegram said. I had no intention of devoting more than ten lines or so to a scientific subject when I sit down, for I have to step high and softly on scientific subjects since I came to the conclusion that I was not too old to learn, and that if I was inclined that way it was just as well to hunt fossils in the boundless woods or upon the lonely stream, as it was to pitch horse shoes, for instance, or seek some other diversion.

But one thing led to another until I do not have room today to develop a number of things that have been projected by whatever unseen forces control thoughts.

And as I once picked up on top of Swago mountain some thousands of feet above any stream, a sky blue crawfish or trilobite, that was full of life and vigor, and which had just emerged from a hole that he had drilled through from the water level, I have wondered just how old that crawfish was. It had evidently been a long time coming and the way geologists throw years around it may have been a million years on its way.

Just so the papers were full of a subject as to how long a toad or frog could live encased in store. A born toad which is a kind of a lizard was put in corner stone of a court house thirty-one years ago and was alive but not lively when it was taken out. A long discussion followed as to whether the thing was possible. Whether it was an undetected incident such as constantly arises to confute science. I believe it is still unsettled whether there was or was not some dupackery practised about it. But what I arose to observe was that thirty-one years in a cornerstone was as nothing compared to some of the stories as to frogs living in rock that arise from time to time. As it happens there are two instances in West Virginia that are well remembered and which are referred to by local persons and which have had a scientific bearing.

In Greenbrier county there is a place on the C & O. Railway known as Frog tunnel. I have never stopped there I do not know whether that is the official name of the tunnel or not. But the tradition is that it got its name when it was excavated fifty odd years ago by the finding of a live frog which was blasted out of the rock. The frog was alive and doing well but what has become of it in the last fifty years, I was not able to learn. But according to the best authority the rock that it was encased in must have been laid down several hundred millions of years ago and the frog sealed in it The wise crackers are inclined to but—that in cases of this kind that there have been some hidden passages through the rock and that the frog crept in there a day or two before. It is one of those things that are dismissed with incredulous smiles, the wave of the hand, and air of superiority. The kick is in the but.

The other incident happened in the vicinity of Philippi and I had it from the man who found it and he is a truthful man. And in that case I do not have an opinion to give you, for I certainly have lived in the woods long enough not to reject anything however mysterious. In this case he was working a force of men on an excavating job in the coal regions, some one hundred million years old. One blast of the explosive left a wall of rock exposed some forty feet below the surface In it was seen a tiny hole that caused the workmen and the boss to investigate and they saw that it led into a small cavity. In it was something alive and the hole was enlarged and they took out a living toad. The place was a little larger than the toad and seemed to be lined with smooth hard rock. The toad showed signs of life and lived for some minutes. It did not seem to be affected as long as it was kept in the shade, but the boss decided to take it to town at once. It was a day of hot sunshine. The moment the rays of the sun struck it, the toad died, and in a few minutes it had shrunk to almost nothing. All that was left of it was a scrap of something that looked like a single thickness of tissue paper. The cavity was examined and to all appearance it was as old as the rock itself It may be that the truth lies midway The rock may not be as old as it is cracked up to be.

Latest quotation: I am just in receipt of a letter from Mr Paul H. Price, the geologist, in which he pronounces the little stranger to be an atrypa and not a trilobite. According to conservative geologists, if any such ever gained more than reflected fame, the trilobite and the atrypa are both extinct. As it is the object of the foregoing treatise to advance the thought that the crawfish is a true trilobite, I have decided to let it stand Stet as the saying is If Oom Paul would but admit that it is one of the Arthropoda instead of classifying it as one of the Arthropomata? You see what I mean? Having discovered that the trilobite still lives, the question of whether the stone I found was a brachiopod or a crustacean, is a subordinate question I found many of the atrypa cheek by jowl with my trilobites. I say it is an Arthropoda The geologist say that it is an Arthropomata. These are the respective rocks on which we sit.

Administratrix's Notice

Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of Gilbert Sheets to present the same properly proven according to law to the undersigned administratrix All persons owing said estate will prepare to settle at once

This 7th day of February, 1928

Mrs Ollie Sheets
Administratrix estate of Gilbert Sheets, deceased.

Administrator's Notice

All persons having claims against the estate of Ed H Gilmer, deceased will present the same to the undersigned administrator, with proper legal proof attached.

February 21, 1928

Glen Galford, Administrator

Our Guaranteed Paint is a combination of the best and purest materials of which Paint can be made, and for durability and covering qualities, we guarantee it superior to any made. . . .

The component parts are: the best and Purest White Lead, Oxide of Zinc, Pure Linseed Oil, Spirits of Turpentine and Turpentine Japan Dryer, tinted with the finest of Pure Colors, and ground to the proper consistency by the latest improved machinery.

DEALERS SUPPLIED BY

S. B. Wallace & Co.

MARLINTON. . . . . WEST VIRGINIA

5 percent Farm Loans

The Federal Land Bank
OF BALTIMORE

has lowered its interest rate on new loans to 5 percent.
The lowest rate ever offered farmers of this community.
A long time, easy payment, profit sharing, cooperative system.
Consult P. T. Ward, Secretary-Treasurer

POCAHONTAS COUNTY NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION

Pocahontas County Farm Bureau Service Co.

BUICK

Outsells any other 3 cars in Buick's field

MOTORISTS like you invest almost as many dollars in Buick motor cars as in any other THREE CARS in Buick's field

Faith means something when it is backed by dollars

SEDANS $1195 to $1995 COUPES $1195 to $1850
SPORT MODELS $1195 to $1525

All prices f. o. b. Flint, Mich., government tax to be added. The G.M.A.C. finance plan, the most desirable, is available.

S. J. REXRODE
Marlinton, W. Va.

BABY CHICKS

From Stock tested free from baccillary white diarrhoea, by State Dept. Agriculture.

Tancreds S. C. W. Leghorns, $60 per 500; $32 per 250; $13 per 100; $7 per 50.

Parks Bred-to-lay Barred Rocks and S. C. R. I. Reds $70 per 500; $37 per 250; $15 per 100; $8 per 50. All males pedigreed 250 to 300 egg strains.

Place your order now, for delivery any time up to July 1st. Ten percent book orders, be sure of chicks on date wanted. 100 per cent live delivery by prepaid parcel post. Write phone or call at farm. Circulars and price list free.

Oak Crest Poultry Farm
Millpoint, West Virginia

T. S. McNeel F. F. McLaughlin

McNEEL & McLAUGHLIN
INSURANCE

Fire, Life, Health, Accident, Automobile, Live Stock and Bonds.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS

Town and Country Property only licensed agents in the County.

Money to loan on farms

Loan business solicited

Little Levels Supply Co.
Seebert, W. Va.

Before buying elsewhere call on us for prices on all farm machinery, tractors, trucks, etc., feeds, flour, salt, fertilizer, seeds and hardware. Don't wait Mr. Farmer, to see what repairs you need! Look your machinery over now and if you need repairs, Write or phone us.

H. W. Harper, Manager
Hillsboro, West Virginia

WRITE
LEGHORN CHIX
Hatching Eggs
10% Books Your Order
Pocahontas Poultry Farm
Clover Lick, W. Va.

Notice

I will buy your beeswax or old combs and get highest market prices.
L. O. SIMMONS

FOR SALE:—8 Shepherd pups six weeks old, black with white collars on neck, guaranteed bred drivers. Price, male $5; female $3. f. o. b. Marlinton.—A. S. Gay, Onoto, W. Va.

A. P. EDGAR
Attorney-at-Law,
Marlinton, W. Va.
Courts: Pocahontas and adjoining counties and the Supreme Court of Appeals

P. RAYMOND MILLER
Attorney-at-Law,
Marlinton, W. Va.
Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

ANDREW PRICE
Attorney-at-Law
Marlinton, W. Va

P. T. WARD
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Marlinton, W. Va

J. E. BUCKLEY
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Marlinton, W. Va.
Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business.

A. C. BARLOW
Veterinarian and Dentist
Marlinton, W. Va. R. R. D. 1

M. C. SMITH,
Veterinarian
Hillsboro, W. Va.
All calls by mail or phone given prompt attention.

L. O SIMMONS
BICYCLE REPAIR SHOP
Marlinton, W. Va

W. A. BARLOW
OLD RELIABLE AUCTIONEER
Onoto, W. Va.
All calls answered.

WM. O. RUCKMAN
LICENSED AUCTIONEER
Millpoint, West Virginia
Satisfaction guaranteed. I am restless. Write or found me.

Dr. E. G. HEROLD
DENTIST
X ray Equipment
MARLINTON, W. VA
Offices in Marlinton Electric Co. Bld

DR. CHAS. S. KRAMER
DENTIST
X ray work done
Hours 8 to 12 and 1 to 6
or by appointment.
First National Bank Building
MARLINTON, W. Va.

DR. H. C. SOLTER
Professional Bldg, Rooms 3 6
Office Hours from 2 to 5
Other times by appointment
Marlinton, West Va

J. B. SUTTON
Licensed Embalmer and Funeral Director.
P. O. Box 172, Cass, W. Va.

Z. S. Smith
Undertaker and Funeral Director
LICENSED EMBALMER
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Real-estate Agents

We are having inquiries for farms and other lands every week and it is our belief that there is a better day coming for the farmer. Buy a small farm, stock it with good dairy cows, chickens, turkeys and hogs. Sell your cream and butter fat and feed the turkeys, chickens and hogs the skim milk, and you will soon be making money and independent.

Let us sell you a nice little farm. We have them for sale.

McNeel & McLaughlin, Agents

VULCANIZING

HOSPITAL TREATMENT FOR INJURED TIRES AND TUBES

Repaired section guaranteed to out last the rest. Low prices assure a substantial profit to the customer. Paste on a label or tie on a tag and mail to

Lewisburg Motor Co.
Lewisburg, W. Va.

NOTICE

Of Disolution of Partnership:

I have sold my interest in the firm of J S. and J. D. Mace to J. S. Mace who will collect all accounts and settle all bills against said firm.

J. D. MACE.
Mace, W. Va.

Notice

Is hereby given to all the stockholders and renters of the Marlinton and Clover Lick Mutual Telephone Co. to settle up their accounts in full within ten days, or they will be handed over to a justice for collection, as it takes money to run business.

Mrs. J. W Deputy, Asst Sec.

NOTICE

Is hereby given to all persons who have clothes at my residence in Durbin, must come forward and get them on or before the first of March. If not taken they will be sold.

Mrs. J. H. Allen,
Durbin, W. Va.

FIDUCIARY NOTICE

The account of W. H. Barlow, administrator of the estate of Philip Kramer, deceased, are before the undersigned Commissioner of Accounts for settlement.

T. S. McNEEL,
Commissioner

RADIO REPAIRING

Repair and overhaul all makes of radio sets. Leave your radio at the, or call Times office.

J. Paul Simmons

FRUIT TREES

Thousands of West Virginia appl peach, pear, plum, cherry. Millio strawberry, raspberry, grape. Catalogue free. ROANOKE NURSERIES Roanoke, Va.

Bargain

House and three lots on Camden Avenue, Marlinton, cheap for quick buyer. Four rooms, bath and all necessary outbuildings.

McNEEL & McLAUGHLIN